

5323. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's final rule—Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch; Exception for Gifts from a Political Organization (RIN: 3209-AA04) received September 20, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a) (1) (A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5324. A letter from the Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, transmitting an opinion of the U.S. Court of Appeals (92-3133—United States of America versus Rochell Ardall Crowder; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5325. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board [A.G. Order No. 2043-96] (RIN: 3014-AA18) received September 16, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5326. A letter from the Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Definition of the Term Lawfully Present in the United States for Purposes of Applying for Title II Benefits Under Section 401(b)(2) of Public Law 104-193 [INS No. 1792-96] (RIN: 1115-AE51) received September 13, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5327. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Inflation-Indexed Debt Instruments (Notice 96-51) received September 25, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5328. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Low-Income Housing Credit (Revenue Ruling 96-45) received September 25, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5329. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Last-in, First-out Inventories (Revenue Ruling 96-50) received September 25, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5330. A letter from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled, "Department of Veterans Affairs Employment Reduction Assistance Act of 1996"; jointly, to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Government Reform and Oversight.

5331. A letter from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to authorize the sale of excess Federal aircraft to facilitate the suppression of wildfire; jointly, to the Committees on Government Reform and Oversight, Agriculture, and National Security.

¶114.3 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1350. An Act to amend the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 to revitalize the United States-flag merchant marine, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2504. An Act to designate the Federal Building located at the corner of Patton Avenue and Otis Street, and the United States Courthouse located on Otis Street, in Asheville, North Carolina, as the "Veatch-Baley Federal Complex."

H.R. 3186. An Act to designate the Federal building located at 1655 Woodson Road in

Overland, Missouri, as the "Sammy L. Davis Federal Building."

H.R. 3400. An Act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse to be constructed at a site on 18th Street between Dodge and Douglas Streets in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "Roman L. Hruska Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

H.R. 3710. An Act to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 611 North Florida Avenue in Tampa, Florida, as the "Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse."

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2660. An Act to increase the amount authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior for the Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge.

H.R. 3546. An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Walhalla National Fish Hatchery to the State of South Carolina.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3666) "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills and a joint resolution of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 1802. An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain property containing a fish and wildlife facility to the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes.

S. 1875. An Act to designate the United States courthouse in Medford, Oregon, as the "James A. Redden Federal Courthouse".

S.J. Res. 64. Joint resolution to commend Operation Sail for its advancement of brotherhood among nations, its continuing commemoration of the history of the United States, and its nurturing of young cadets through training in seamanship.

¶114.4 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. VOLKMER during one minute speeches addressed the House and, during the course of his remarks,

Mr. LINDER made a point of order, and said:

"The gentleman from Missouri is referring to matters before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, which is explicitly against the House rules."

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, sustained the point of order, and said:

"The Chair sustains the point of order, and the gentleman [Mr. VOLKMER] must proceed in order."

¶114.5 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. VOLKMER addressed the House further and, during the course of his remarks,

Mr. LINDER made a point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, at what point does the Chair decide that these scurrilous attacks on personalities and this abuse of the House rules becomes so out of order that people are asked to take their seat?"

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, sustained the point of order, and said:

"As stated on September 8 by the Chair, at some point the Chair will put it to the entire House to determine whether Members who continually violate the rules will continue to proceed in order."

¶114.6 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia during one minute speeches addressed the House and, during the course of his remarks,

Mr. CHRYSLER made a point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, referring to matters before the Ethics Committee, which is specifically forbidden in the House rules, is my point of order."

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, sustained the point of order, and said:

"The Chair will reiterate the principle in this matter. The Chair will repeat the admonitions of the Chair from June 26, 1996, September 12, September 17, and September 24.

"It is an essential rule of decorum in debate that members should refrain from reference in debate to the conduct of other Members, where such conduct is not the question actually pending before the House, by way of a report from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct or by way of another question of the privileges of the House.

"This principle is documented on pages 168 and 526 of the House Rules Manual, and reflects the consistent rulings of the Chair in this and in prior Congresses and applies to 1-minute and special order speeches.

"The fact that a resolution has been noticed pursuant to rule IX does not permit such references where that resolution is not actually pending.

"Neither the filing of a complaint before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, nor the publication in another forum of charges that are personally critical of another Member, justify the references to such charges on the floor of the House. This includes references to the motivations of Members who file complaints and to members of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

"As cited on page 526 of the Manual, this also includes references to concluded investigations of sitting Members by the Standards Committee (July 24, 1970). Clause 1 of rule XIV is a prohibition against engaging in personality in debate. It derives from article 1, section 5 of the Constitution, which authorizes each House to make its own rules, and to punish its Members for disorderly behavior, and has been part of the rules of the House in some relevant form since 1789. This rule supercedes any claim of a Member to be free from questioning in any other place.